

# From the Handbook for Business, the Bible

## # 24: The captives need to be delivered

Let's talk about captives, that is, prisoners or slaves in servitude to someone or something.

Further, here is an unpleasant truth: Every human is born into 3 levels of slavery...

...**First**, to iniquity, the inherited sin of Adam that separates us from God - **Rom. 3:23**

...**Second**, to the merchants that own & control everything, including people - **Rev. 18:11-13**

...**Third**, to the deceptive blindfold foisted on us by the god of this world - **2 Corin. 4:4**

Christians are no different but, by choice, become slaves (servants) of Jesus thus blotting out all iniquity (**Titus 2:14**); merchant ownership (**John 8:31-32; Gal. 5:1**); and deception (**2 Corin 4:4**).

**Note:** All Aussies are caught up in an O/T style 'wooden yoke of slavery' to our money-lenders, with national debt approaching \$1T & Victoria's near \$200B; we are collectively their slaves!

**This sounds serious, but there is a connection to business & the marketplace:**

Several Handbook sessions this year have highlighted the unrighteous behaviour we see in the marketplace; and it's going to get worse as economic conditions deteriorate, and socialist governments, businesses & individuals become more desperate for money!

**In terms of our theme today, who controls most businesses, governments and institutions?**

Slaves of course, the vast majority not being slaves of Jesus - people that despise the Word of God and as we know, are lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful & proud - **2 Timothy 3:2**

\* Of course, they need to be delivered from slavery by Jesus, just like we were.

He declared in **Luke 4:18**, "*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor. He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised*"

**As a business coach I see a lot of captives compared to the number of freemen:**

Yes. And one factor really concerns me: Christians delivered from slavery handing it right back to the enemy, often without even realising they have done so! Here are EIGHT examples...

- 1: Way too much bank debt & no idea of the lenders' rules, especially the Events of Default
- 2: A mortgage that remains undischarged is poor stewardship once the debt is fully repaid
- 3: Huge investment portfolios created on their own account, not on behalf of the Master
- 4: Too many decisions based on advice from non-Christian slaves who don't know the Word
- 5: Participation in the black economy without as much as a second-thought
- 6: Christians engaging secular lawyers & courts to settle their disputes
- 7: Buying into investment schemes, peddled by charlatans, they don't understand
- 8: Believers living in fear instead of faith because they don't know or trust the Word of God.

***Counsel: I appreciate today's session sounds like I'm preaching! Indeed, I am, but this message needs to be shared. These are end times; we were once captives but have been delivered - we need to live accordingly...thus we could & should be the kings of business!***